

REMARKS

Upon entry of this paper claims 1, 9, 15 and 20 are amended to address the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection. No new matter has been added. Applicants contend that claims are patentable and in condition for allowance, as discussed below.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification. The Office Action states that “*the conversion taking place without user direction*” is not supported in the specification and constitutes a new negative limitation. Applicants respectfully address the rejection with the following amendments and arguments.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claim 1 does not contain a new unsupported negative limitation. The phrase “*the conversion taking place without user direction*” is simply a clarification of what is meant by the use of the phrase “*automatically converting data*” within the context of the claims. However, in order to expedite patent prosecution, claims 1, 9, 15 and 20 are amended to delete the phrase, “*the conversion taking place without user direction.*” Applicants respectfully submit that the aforementioned amendments address the above rejection and request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Summary of Invention in Pending Application

Prior to discussing the substantive rejections below, Applicants wish to provide a brief summary of some of the features relating to what they regard as their invention as claimed in the pending application. This Summary is not intended to convey all of the inventive aspects of the present invention. Instead, this Summary is intended to merely point out some of the features that have been identified as relevant to the rejections stated in the Office Action.

The claimed invention is generally directed to a method for remotely compiling, storing and displaying data. Data within documents submitted over the web are converted into XML documents. These XML documents are stored in a central location where designated users at remote locations may convert the data in the XML documents into different formats for remote display using XML style sheets.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1, 3-9, 11-15, 17-20, 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,757,869 of Li et al. (hereafter Li) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,722,395 of Hyman et al. (hereafter Hyman). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection with the following arguments.

The Li reference is generally directed to a method and apparatus for providing access to a legacy application. Data from a host application are used to form markup language data. A stylesheet is applied to the markup language data to generate a markup language document. The markup language document is presented on a display for user input. The user input is then returned to the server where it is transformed back into the host format and returned to the host application.

The Hyman reference is generally directed to a self-modifying data flow execution architecture for computer-readable structures. The architecture provides a network of interconnected processing elements which are modified dynamically depending on the data flowing through the process.

Li and Hyman, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the limitations of claim 1. Specifically, Li and Hyman do not teach or suggest *“a method for collecting and presenting data, said method comprising the steps of: ... storing said XML document on said server; and permitting access to said XML document from a second location connected to said network by a second user.”* The Office Action notes that Li teaches the invention as claimed including *“access of said XML document from a remote location connected to said network by a second user (fig. 1). But Li does not teach permitting access to the XML document from a remote location.”* These statements seem to be contradictory. Applicants assume that the Examiner

meant the second statement. The next sentence in the Office Action states “However, Hyman teaches permitting access (sic) document from a remote location.” Applicants assume that the Examiner meant that Hyman teaches permitting access to the document by a second user at a remote location.

As was discussed earlier, in the method described in Li, the data is in XML format only in the intermediate steps before conversion back into the host data format. The method of Li ends when the data is transformed “into a host format for the host application. The transformed data is then returned to the host application,” as stated in column 7, lines 1-2. Li does not indicate that an extra copy of the XML document is saved on the server before the data is transformed into the host format. Because the final result of the process in Li is data in the host application format, any data that might remain on the server would be in host format and not an XML document as specified in claim 1. The Hyman passage cited in the Office Action is directed to a system operated in a client-server configuration to permit a user to retrieve web pages from a web based server. This passage makes no reference to allowing access to an XML document stored on a server by someone other than the user who generated the XML document. Additionally, Hyman establishes no motivation for a person skilled in the art to change the purpose of Li from allowing access to legacy applications to collecting data in XML form on a server to present to multiple users. A combination of Li and Hyman does not teach or suggest storing the XML document on the server and permitting access to said document from a second location by a second user, as recited in independent claims 1 and 20.

A combination of Li and Hyman also does not teach or suggest “*storing said XML document in a database and permitting access to said document from a second location by a second user,*” as recited in independent claims 9 and 15. Claims 3-7 depend from claim 1, claims 11-14 depend from claim 9, claims 17-19 depend from claim 15, and claims 22 and 23 depend from claim 20, therefore all of these dependent claims are patentable as being dependent on an allowable base claim in addition to their own claimed characteristics. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

Applicants respectfully submit that there is no teaching, suggestion, or motivation to combine Li and Hyman found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally

available to one of ordinary skill in the art. Thus, one of the basic criteria for a prima facie case of obviousness is not met. Li is specifically directed to providing access to a legacy application. A basic list of the steps in the method of Li comprises: sending host data from a user's computer to a server, transforming the host data into XML, applying a style sheet and displaying the XML data for the user to edit, sending the edited XML data back to the server, transforming the XML data back into host application data, and sending the host application data back to the original user. Li uses the XML data only in the intermediate steps in order to allow modification of the host application data. Li does not teach or suggest that the XML document is stored on the server to permit access to the document by a second user in a second location. Additionally, there is no motivation within Li to give another user access to the XML data as Li's purpose is to obtain data in the host application format. When Li indicates that others may be interested in the modified data, Li only notifies the "Listeners" about the new host data (data in host application format and not in XML format), see figure 10, and column 8, line 67, to column 9, line 1.

Additionally, Hyman contains no teaching, suggestion or motivation to combine Hyman with Li. Hyman is directed to a self-modifying data flow architecture for computer readable structures. Hyman is unrelated to a method for collecting and presenting data by allowing separate users to access the XML documents on a server or in a database as claimed in the present application. Further, Hyman is unrelated to providing access to legacy applications. The Office Action notes that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Li and Hyman. The Applicants respectfully submit that it would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to combine the two references, with their very different stated purposes and methods, to create something with a very different purpose than either reference. Independent claim 20 also contains the wording "*storing said XML document on said server; permitting access to said XML document from a second location connected to said network, said access by a second user,*" and so the same arguments apply to claim 20. Claims 9 and 15 make reference to "*storing said document in a database.*" The same arguments also apply to claims 9 and 15. All of the dependent claims depend from claims 1, 9, 15 or 20, and are therefore patentable as being dependent on an allowable base claim in addition to their own claimed characteristics. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to all claims is requested.

Claims 2, 10, 16 and 21 are rejected under U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Li and Hyman in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,684,088 of Halahmi (hereafter Halahmi). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection with the following arguments.

The Halahmi reference is generally directed to transmitting email messages and displaying them on a low bandwidth device. The system and method are particularly preferred for WAP-enabled devices.

With reference to the previous arguments regarding independent claims 1, 9, 15 and 20, Applicants respectfully submit that dependent claims 2, 10, 16 and 21 are patentable as being dependent on allowable base claims.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that there is no teaching, suggestion, or motivation to combine Li, Hyman and Halahmi found either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, thus, one of the basic criteria for a prima facie case of obviousness is not met. Applicants respectfully submit that it would not have been obvious to combine a method and apparatus to allow access to legacy applications, a self-modifying data flow architecture for computer readable structures, and a method for transmitting email messages to a low bandwidth device and displaying the contents on that low bandwidth device, to result in a method for collecting and presenting data as an XML document on a server for access by a second user. Applicants respectfully submit that all of the criteria for a prima facie case of obviousness are not met.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that Li, Hyman and Halahmi, alone or in combination, do not teach or disclose every element of the claimed invention. Along with the elements of the independent claims that the references do not teach or suggest, the references do not teach or suggest “*the additional step of: automatically emailing said XML document to a recipient, said recipient indicated by said first user,*” as recited in claims 2, 10, 16 and 21. The passage in Halahmi cited in the Office Action, (column 6, lines 10-18), makes no reference to an email recipient indicated by another user. This particular passage deals with a conversion module 24 and a format suitable for a wireless device. This reference as a whole specifically deals with wireless technology, thus the combination does not specifically disclose automatically

emailing the data contained within a XML document to a recipient indicated by said first user when submitting said first document. The combination of the three references does not teach or suggest all of claims 2, 10, 16, and 21. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the current rejection is requested.

CONCLUSION


In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. Applicants courteously solicit allowance of the claims in the form of a Notice of Allowance. Should there be any outstanding issues of patentability following the entry of this response, a telephone interview is respectfully requested to resolve such issues.

Please charge any shortage or credit any overpayment of fees to our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. SMQ-063RCE from which the undersigned is authorized to draw. In the event that a petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted herewith, and the requisite petition does not accompany this response, the undersigned hereby petitions under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this submission timely. Any fee due is authorized to be charged to the aforementioned Deposit Account.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

Dated: April 13, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

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